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A new *Agyneta* Hull, 1911 from Iran (Araneae, Linyphiidae, Micronetinae)

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A new *Agyneta* Hull, 1911 from Iran (Araneae, Linyphiidae, Micronetinae). - A new species, *Agyneta iranica* sp. n., is described from Golestan, Iran, differing from congeners by the shape of the distal part of the lamella characteristica in the male, as well as by the much wider entrance ducts, which are well translucent through the proscape in the female. The correct data for the type locality of *Megalepthyphantes kandahar* Tanasevitch, 2009 is given.

Keywords: Arachnida - spiders - new species.

INTRODUCTION

One more species, *Agyneta iranica* sp. n., is added to the list of 67 linyphiid species known from Iran (Tanasevitch, 2009a). The new species was found in a forest in the Golestan Province near the border to Turkmenistan.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

This contribution is based on the spider material collected by Antoine Senglet from Iran, deposited in the Muséum d'histoire naturelle, Geneva (MHNG). Senglet's collection number is given in square brackets.

In the description, the sequence of leg segment measurements is as follows: femur + patella + tibia + metatarsus + tarsus. All measurements are given in mm. All scale lines in the figures correspond to 0.1 mm.

The terminology of palpal structures follows that of Saaristo & Tanasevitch (1996).

Abbreviations used in the text and figures: BT - basal tooth, E - embolus, ED - entrance duct, LL - lateral lobe, P - proscape, TmI - position of trichobothrium on tibia I.

Agyneta iranica sp. n. Figs 1-7

Holotype: MNHG (without registration number); ♂, Iran, Golestan; labeled as Mazandaran; Naharkhoran/Gorgan (36°44'N, 54°29'E), forest, sifted litter and moss; 20.VII.1973; leg. A. Senglet [7332].

Paratypes: MNHG (without registration number); 2 ♀, same locality and date as for holotype.

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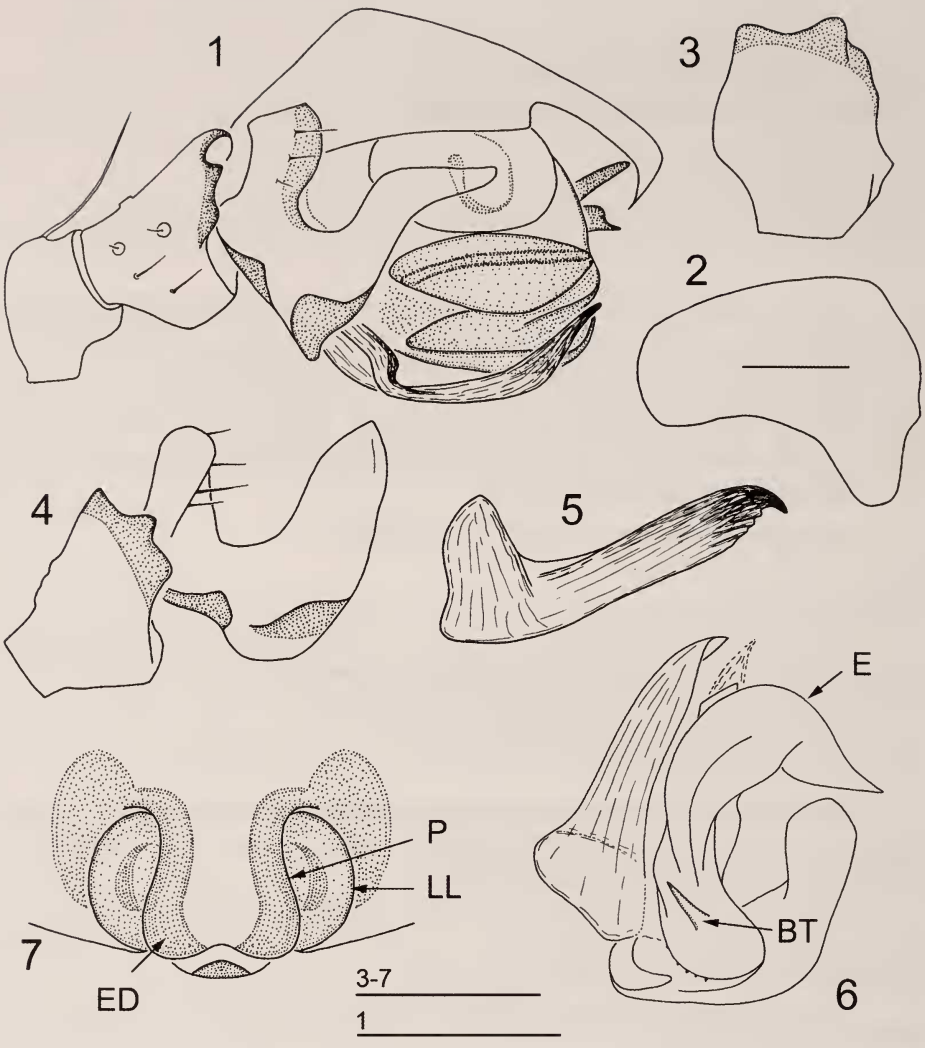

FIGS 1-7

Agyneta iranica sp. n., ♂ holotype (1-6) and ♀ paratype (7). (1) Right palp, retrolateral view. (2) Cymbium, prolateral view. (3) Palpal tibia, dorsal view. (4) Palpal tibia and paracymbium, lateral view. (5) Lamella characteristica, lateral view. (6) Embolic division. (7) Epigyne, ventral view.

ETYMOLOGY: The specific name, an adjective, is derived from the name of the country of origin.

DIAGNOSIS: The new species can be easily distinguished by the peculiar shape of the lamella characteristica, by the presence of a strong tooth at the base of the embolus in male, as well as by the much wider entrance ducts, which are well trans - lucent through the proscape in the female.

DESCRIPTION: Male. Total length 1.77. Carapace 0.75 long, 0.55 wide, brown, with a thin black margin. Chelicerae 0.32 long. Legs yellow to pale brown. Leg I 2.79 long (0.75+0.20+0.70+0.67+0.47), IV 2.86 long (0.77+0.20+0.72+0.65+0.52). Chaetotaxy: All tibiae with two dorsal spines only. Metatarsi spineless. TmI 0.26. Metatarsus IV without trichobothrium. Palp (Figs 1-6): Palpal tibia with two small outgrowths retrolaterally. Cymbium without posterodorsal outgrowth. Posterior and anterior pockets of paracymbium poorly expressed. Lamella characteristica like a narrow band with a hook apically. Embolus with a long tooth basally. Abdomen 1.00 long, 0.70 wide, pale grey.

Female. Total length 1.90. Carapace 0.75 long, 0.52 wide. Chelicerae 0.30 long, unmodified. Leg I 2.42 long (0.70+0.20+0.62+0.58+0.32), IV 2.46 long (0.72+0.20+0.62+0.60+0.32). TmI 0.22. Abdomen 1.20 long, 0.80 wide. Epigyne (Fig. 7): Proscape slightly narrowed basally. Entrance ducts very wide, well translucent through proscape. Lateral lobes of scape well-developed. Body and leg coloration, as well as chaetotaxy, as in male.

TAXONOMIC REMARKS: The new species seems to be most similar to the Turkmenian-Iranian *Agyneta kopetdaghensis* Tanasevitch, 1989, originally described from Kopet Dagh Mts, Turkmenistan (Tanasevitch, 1989), but differs clearly by the shape of the distal part of the lamella characteristica, which is claw-shaped in *A. iranica* sp. n., versus circular saw-like in *A. kopetdaghensis*. The female of the new species differs from that of *A. kopetdaghensis* by the much wider entrance ducts of the epigyne, well translucent through the proscape.

DISTRIBUTION: Known from the type locality only.

CORRIGENDA

In my previous paper on linyphiid spiders of Afghanistan (Tanasevitch, 2009b) the type locality of *Megalepthyphantes kandahar* Tanasevitch, 2009 has unfortunately been incorrectly given as AFGHANISTAN: Kandahar, E of Kandahar [7561] (31°37'N, 65°53'E), 1.VIII.1975, leg. A. Senglet. In fact the type locality of *M. kandahar* is as follows: AFGHANISTAN: Kabul Province, Golbagh [7567] (34°26'N, 69°07'E), 11.VIII.1975, leg. A. Senglet.

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